GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:658
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017
Welfare of Labourers
Bidhuri Shri Ramesh;Gopalakrishnan Shri R.;Kumar Dr. Virendra

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)the details of schemes/programmes being run by the Government for the welfare and upliftment of labourers/workers in the country;
(b)the details of funds sanctioned, released and utilised under these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State/UTwise;
(c)whether the Government has conducted/proposes to conduct any study/survey on the conditions of the workers in their workplace; and
(d)if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve their overall conditions including safety, health and working conditions at workplaces?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a)& (b): Government has set up a robust system of social security for welfare of labourers in organised and unorganised sector. The social security to the workers in the organized sector is provided through five Central Acts, namely, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, the Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008.
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The 2008 Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government through the National Social Security Board. The details of welfare schemes being implemented for the unorganised workers including the State/UT wise number of persons benefited during the last three years and the current year and the amount of funds allocated/ utilised under these schemes during the said period, State/UT-wise are at Annexure I.
Further, Central Government has also launched the Atal Pension Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana for all citizens especially targeting unorganised workers to provide them comprehensive social security.

(c) & (d): No such study has been conducted by the Central Government.